

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are all the claims pending in the application. New claim 20, which rewrites objected-to claim 7 in independent form, has been added by this Amendment. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 15-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Claps (U.S. Patent No. 5,890,855). Claims 3-6, 10, 13, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Claps in view of the knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone Interview of February 2, 2005. During the Interview, as documented in the February 8, 2005 Interview Summary, Applicants discussed (“demonstrated”) that the lifting units of the present invention independently lift and tilt the upper frame of the test stand with respect to the lower frame. This is quite different than the apparatus disclosed in cited reference Claps, since the lifting of the Claps rack is conducted by a fork lift truck or lifting hoist.

Accordingly, solely to advance prosecution for particular, exemplary embodiments of the present invention, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, and 16 to more clearly distinguish between the lifting units of the present invention and the lifting function performed by the fork lift truck or lifting hoist of Claps. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute other embodiments of the lifting units in a continuation application.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No. 10/644,907

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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